CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A voice spelling method comprising the steps of:

in an audio-only interface, receiving a plurality of audio signals representative of spoken characters, said plurality of spoken characters specifying a string; and,

through said audio-only interface, providing audible feedback in between each received spoken character.

2. The voice spelling method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

through said audio-only interface, audibly playing back each spoken character;

accepting a voice selection of one of said played back characters, said selection denoting a disputed character;

identifying a replacement character; and,

replacing said disputed character with said identified replacement character in said specified string.

3. The voice spelling method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

suggesting a replacement character for use in place of said disputed character.

4. The voice spelling method of claim 3, wherein said step of suggesting a replacement character comprises the steps of:

querying a database of empirically determined replacement characters for a suitable replacement character; and,

suggesting a replacement character based upon results of said query.

5. The voice spelling method of claim 3, wherein said step of suggesting a replacement character comprises the steps of:

generating an n-best list of replacement characters; and,

suggesting a replacement character based upon said n-best list.

6. The voice spelling method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving a plurality of audio signals representative of spoken characters comprises the step of:

speech recognizing a plurality of words, each word representing a spoken character, each said word encoding said represented character according to an alpha grammar; and,

decoding each said word into said represented character.

7. The voice spelling method of claim 1, wherein said step of providing audible feedback comprises the step of:

generating an audible beep for each spoken character received.

8. A voice spelling method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving through an audio-only interface an audio signal representative of a spoken character;

(b) speech recognizing said audio signal, said speech recognition producing a textually equivalent character;

(c) responsive to said production of said textually equivalent character, providing audible feedback through said audio-only interface; and,

(d) repeating steps (a)-(c) until receiving through said audio-only interface a voice command to stop;

whereby said produced textually equivalent characters specify a string.

9. The voice spelling method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

replaying through said audio-only interface each textually equivalent character;

accepting a selection of one of said textually characters;

identifying a replacement character for said selected character; and,

replacing said selected character with said replacement character.

10. The voice spelling method of claim 9, wherein said identifying step comprises the step of:

suggesting a replacement character for use in place of said selected character.

11. The voice spelling method of claim 10, wherein said step of suggesting a replacement character comprises the steps of:

querying a database of empirically determined replacement characters for a suitable replacement character; and,

suggesting a replacement character based upon results of said query.

12. The voice spelling method of claim 10, wherein said step of suggesting a replacement character comprises the steps of:

generating an n-best list of replacement characters; and,

suggesting a replacement character based upon said n-best list.

13. The voice spelling method of claim 8, wherein said step of providing audible feedback comprises the step of:

generating an audible beep for each textually equivalent character produced.

14. The voice spelling method of claim 8, wherein said receiving step comprises the step of:

receiving through an audio-only interface an audio signal representative of an alpha grammar encoded character.

15. The voice spelling method of claim 14, wherein said step of speech recognizing said audio signal comprises the steps of:

speech recognizing said alpha grammar encoded character; and,

decoding said encoded character. said decoding producing a textually equivalent character.